

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1430

SBA TRADE PROGRAMS ACT OF 2007

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2992) to amend the Small Business Act to improve trade programs, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2992

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the “SBA Trade Programs Act of 2007”.

(b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—SMALL BUSINESS TRADE POLICY

Sec. 101. Develop and implement small business trade policies.

Sec. 102. Establish an annual small business trade strategy.

Sec. 103. Track small business exports and trade resource utilization.

TITLE II—TRADE COMPLIANCE PROGRAMS

Sec. 201. Trade Remedy and Dispute Assistance Initiative.

Sec. 202. Patent Assistance and Intellectual Property Protections Initiative.

TITLE III—TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

Sec. 301. Trade Adjustment Assistance Financing Initiative.

Sec. 302. Technical resources for trade adjustment assistance.

TITLE IV—EXPORT ASSISTANCE

Sec. 401. Increase Small Business Administration participation at Export Assistance Centers.

Sec. 402. Increase access to capital for small and medium-sized exporters.

Sec. 403. Clerical amendment.

TITLE V—AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

Sec. 501. Authorization of appropriations.

TITLE I—SMALL BUSINESS TRADE POLICY

SEC. 101. TRADE POLICY FOR SMALL BUSINESS.

Section 22 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 649) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(h) **ROLE IN TRADE POLICY.**—

“(1) **RECOMMENDATIONS.**—The director of the Office shall present recommendations regarding small business exporters to trade negotiators.

“(2) **DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE POLICIES.**—The director of the Office shall assist in the development of trade policies that increase opportunities for small businesses in domestic and foreign markets, including the removal of trade barriers.

“(3) **IMPLEMENTATION OF TRADE POLICIES.**—The director of the Office shall assist in the implementation of trade policies through relationships developed with Federal trade policymakers, particularly the United States Trade Representative, and transnational organizations, such as the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development.

“(4) **SMALL EXPORTER PROMOTION PROGRAMS.**—The director of the Office shall establish programs that will boost the export opportunities of entrepreneurs and encourage transnational organizations, such as the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, small exporter organizations, and ministries of foreign governments to support and publicize these programs.

“(5) **STRATEGIC ALLIANCES.**—

“(A) **CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.**—The director of the Office shall notify the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate of pending strategic alliances.

“(B) **FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES.**—The director of the Office shall ensure that planned and documented follow-up activities for strategic alliances increase trade opportunities for small businesses.

“(C) **STRATEGIC ALLIANCE DEFINED.**—In this paragraph, the term ‘strategic alliance’ means a working relationship, entered into between the Small Business Administration and foreign national ministries representing small business concerns, for the purpose of strengthening trade between United States small businesses and foreign small businesses by establishing overseas networks and buyers.”.

SEC. 102. ESTABLISH AN ANNUAL SMALL BUSINESS TRADE STRATEGY.

Section 22 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 649), as amended by this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(i) **ANNUAL SMALL BUSINESS TRADE STRATEGY.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The director of the Office shall develop and maintain a small business trade strategy that is contributed as part of the National Export Strategy developed by the Department of Commerce that includes at least the following components:

“(A) Strategies to increase small business export opportunities. The strategies shall include a specific strategy to increase small business export opportunities to the Asia Pacific Region.

“(B) Recommendations to increase the competitiveness of domestic small business industries in the global economy.

“(C) Recommendations to protect small businesses from unfair trade practices, including intellectual property violations.

“(D) Strategies to expand small business representation in United States trade policy formation and implementation.

“(E) Coordination efforts with the Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee of the Department of Commerce, as well as with Federal agencies that also provide trade financing to small businesses, such as the Overseas Private Investment Corporation and the Export-Import Bank.

“(2) **REPORT.**—At the beginning of each fiscal year, the director shall submit to the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate a report on the small business trade strategy required by paragraph (1). The report shall cover, at a minimum, each of the components required by paragraph (1) and shall include specific policies and objectives and timelines to implement those policies and objectives.”.

SEC. 103. TRACK SMALL BUSINESS EXPORTS AND TRADE RESOURCE UTILIZATION.

Section 22 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 649), as amended by this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(j) **TRACKING SYSTEM.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The director of the Office shall develop a system to track small business exports and the use by small businesses of Federal trade promotion resources. The director shall ensure that the system is consistent through each Federal agency member of the Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee.

“(2) **DESIGN EMPHASIS.**—The director shall give particular attention, in designing the system, to the tracking of data on the trade of services by small exporters, in consultation with the Department of Commerce.

“(3) **IMPLEMENTATION.**—The director shall work in consultation with members of the Trade

Promotion Coordinating Committee to ensure that the system is implemented and that the results of the system are reported annually in the National Export Strategy conducted by the Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee.”.

TITLE II—TRADE COMPLIANCE PROGRAMS

SEC. 201. TRADE REMEDY AND DISPUTE ASSISTANCE INITIATIVE.

Section 22 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 649), as amended by this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(k) **TRADE REMEDY AND DISPUTE ASSISTANCE INITIATIVE.**—The director of the Office shall design, and the district offices of the Administration shall implement, a program that provides technical assistance, counseling services, and reference materials to assist small businesses navigate the trade dispute and remedy processes. The program shall include—

“(1) information on available resources, procedures, and requirements for trade remedy investigations;

“(2) an approach for district office staff to provide one-on-one assistance to small businesses involved in these activities; and

“(3) an identification of legal resources and other tools to ensure small businesses can navigate the trade dispute and remedy processes affordably.”.

SEC. 202. PATENT ASSISTANCE AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROTECTIONS INITIATIVE.

Section 22 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 649), as amended by this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(l) **PATENT ASSISTANCE AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROTECTIONS INITIATIVE.**—In consultation with the United States Patent and Trademark Office and the United States Copyright Office, the Office shall design counseling services, including identifying legal resources for small businesses to secure intellectual property protection in foreign countries. To implement the program, the Office shall collaborate with district office staff to provide one-on-one assistance to small businesses involved in these activities.”.

TITLE III—TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

SEC. 301. TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE FINANCING INITIATIVE.

Section 7(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)(D) by inserting after “paragraph (14)(A),” the following: “or to participate in a loan made under paragraph (16),”; and

(2) in paragraph (16)—

(A) in subparagraph (D) by striking clauses (i) and (ii) and inserting the following:

“(i) is impacted by—

“(I) increased competition with foreign firms in the relevant market; or

“(II) unfair trade practices, particularly intellectual property violations; and

“(ii) is injured by such impacts.”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(E) **OUTREACH AND MARKETING.**—The Administration shall increase outreach and marketing of international trade loans to district offices and private lenders.”.

SEC. 302. TECHNICAL RESOURCES FOR TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE.

Section 22 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 649), as amended by this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(m) **TECHNICAL RESOURCES FOR TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The director of the Office shall establish a comprehensive set of services to assist small business readjustment, including access to training, technology, marketing assistance, and research and information on domestic and global markets.

“(2) **IMPLEMENTATION.**—The Administrator shall, by regulation, establish such requirements as may be necessary to carry out paragraph (1).